

ANNOUNCEMENT

Specialists to Provide Technical Assistance and Training under the Initiative for Conservation in the Andean Amazon (ICAA)

OPPORTUNITY:

The US Department of the Interior – International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) is seeking individuals to provide technical assistance (TA) and training to help improve the management of select indigenous territories in Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Bolivia, with an emphasis on Ecuador and Peru.

Each TA assignment will address one of the following thematic areas:

- a) Legal, regulatory, and institutional structures and frameworks for effective management of indigenous territories;
- b) Engagement of and coordination with local, regional, and national governments to build management capacity and resolve conflict with indigenous communities
- c) Sustainable forest, fisheries, and wildlife management on and near indigenous lands;
- d) Management of multiple use activities on or near indigenous lands;
- e) The development of sustainable income generation activities on or near indigenous lands;
- f) Mechanisms for partnership and collaboration, including participatory planning, co-management structures, conflict resolution, and negotiation skills;
- g) Development of carbon sequestration (or REDD) projects and sale of carbon credits

As part of the launch of this effort, a team with cross-cutting expertise will be assembled to conduct an assessment of needs. The initial assessment may identify additional areas to be addressed by follow-up teams. DOI-ITAP activities would be geared towards generating models for the management of indigenous territories in the region.

ITAP BACKGROUND:

DOI-ITAP provides assistance to developing countries on subjects of Departmental expertise on a reimbursable basis. The program is currently operating across the globe with support from organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.

For this assignment, DOI-ITAP proposes to build on its domestic expertise and its successful history of technical assistance overseas to work in close collaboration with the U.S. Agency for International Development, the governments of Ecuador, Peru, Colombia, and Bolivia, and various nongovernmental organizations to generate models for improved management of indigenous territories that may be applicable throughout the region.

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

The Initiative for Conservation in the Andean Amazon (ICAA) is a five year program (2006-2011) that brings together the efforts of 20 public and private organizations working in the Amazon regions of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, with the goal of building constituencies and agreements which promote the sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity and environmental services of the region.

The Initiative is sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and was designed through an extensive consultation process involving over 200 representatives of regional organizations.

For more information, please visit <http://www.amazonia-andina.org/en>.

ASSIGNMENT:

The various TA activities that take place under this announcement will be conducted as approximately two week in-country assignments. Pre-trip preparation, including planning and research, will be required at the home duty station and additional time will be necessary for post-trip follow-up activities (e.g. final trip report and delivery of recommendations). While in South America, the specialists selected for this assignment will work closely with the appropriate contacts within the region, including but not limited to government and non-governmental partners, and DOI-ITAP staff.

SCHEDULE:

It is expected that specialized teams will be conducting their work throughout 2012 – 2013.

PRE- AND POST-TRIP DUTIES:

All travel and in-country logistics will be handled by DOI-ITAP. Background materials will be provided to the selected individuals prior to the trip. The selected individuals will be expected to work in collaboration with the DOI-ITAP manager on the preparation and follow-up for the technical assistance over phone and via email.

Within three weeks of the completion of the trip, the team will provide the DOI-ITAP manager a brief draft report focusing on the trip events, evaluations, and recommendations for future related policy development.

COSTS:

ITAP will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, immunizations, per diem, etc.). The salaries of the team members will be paid by their employing DOI agency for the duration of the international assignment, including pre- and post-trip obligation, unless otherwise negotiated.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Demonstrated professional experience in one or more of the themes outlined under “Opportunities” in this announcement is required.

Preference will be given to current or retired DOI employees and other USG employees.

Professional experience with the management of indigenous territories or working with indigenous peoples preferred.

Spanish language ability strongly preferred.

Experience providing direct instruction or training in professional environment preferred.

Previous international experience is desirable, especially in Latin America.

Must have a demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups.

Upon selection, candidates must submit a current physician-signed letter or medical review form indicating fitness-for-duty.

If you are selected for this assignment, you will be responsible for obtaining your supervisor's approval to participate in this program.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit a:

1. Current resume
2. Cover letter, summarizing relevant work experience

Please submit applications via email or fax to:

Angel Córdova

Office of International Affairs

U.S. Department of the Interior

E-mail: angel_cordova@ios.doi.gov

Fax: 202-208-3983

Please contact Angel Cordova (angel_cordova@ios.doi.gov, 202-513-7734) with any questions.

Applications will be considered on a rolling basis through the length of the program.

All NPS applicants should also copy their applications to Rudy D'Alessandro (rudya_dalessandro@nps.gov) in the NPS Office of International Affairs. Please note that NPS policy prohibits NPS employees from traveling twice on ITAP assignments in any given 12-month period.

Application Process

A short list of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. The entire selection process may take several weeks. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process by telephone, e-mail, or letter.

This position is open to all applicants who meet the stated requirements.